The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

Entered as second-class matter December 14, 1912, at the postoffice at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

VOL. 10 NO. 50. SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1921. WHOLE NO. 518.

LABOR'S CONFERENCE WILL PROVE HISTORIC.

The conference of trade union representatives in Washington, February 23, was a path-breaker, and will prove historic.

One feature of this gathering was labor's solidarity. There were no so-called "conservatives" or so-called "radicals." There were no groups or dissension. The only differences were whether trade union declarations could be made stronger. The debates were high class and marked by a confident and determined spirit.

There were no fantastic speeches, and no impossible programs suggested to resist industrial autocrats who would smash the trade union movement.

"It is a condition, not a theory," that confronted these trade unionists, and they acted accordingly.

No part of the proceedings can offer the slightest encouragement to opponents. It must now be realized that their anti-union campaign since the armistice has not affected the morale of organized labor.

The declarations for human liberty, so often made by the trade union movement, were again reaffirmed, and methods devised to vitalize and energize them as never before.

These trade unionists are alert to the forces against them. The power of these forces was not minimized, but this did not have the slightest effect on men and women who are striving to get the story of trade unionism into the heart and mind of wage earners.

This confident spirit was shown in the call for workers everywhere to join the union of their trade or calling, to intensify their fight for American guarantees, and to ignore labor injunctions. A more expensive information and educational program was outlined.

The conference was a practical and inspirational.

Again proven—if proof were necessary—that labor is solidified and enthusiastic in its contest against industrial and judicial autocrats.

Summary of Trade Union Conference, Held In Washington

Washington, March 5.—Practically every national and international affiliate of the A. F. of L., together with the railroad brotherhoods, were represented at the conference on Feb. 23, in this city, called by President Gompers, under instruction of the executive council, to consider present-day attacks on the trade union movement.

The conference was harmonious and enthusiastic. A declaration was agreed to, which includes a denial and arraignment of injunction judges and employers' efforts to destroy American ideals. It was declared that these employers and believers in European feudalism are working for the destruction of the trade union movement, though inspired by different motives and each using the other as tool in the struggle to overwhelm democracy and put an end to American progress, political and industrial.

Workers were urged to ignore labor injunctions, and profiteering and the shameful and unjustified over capitalization of industrial and commercial projects, which compel the public to pay interest on inflated prices, were denounced.

The conference called for public support and recognition of:

"The right of the workers people of the United States to organize into trade unions for the protection of their rights and interests.

"The right to, and practice of, collective bargaining by trade unions through representatives of their own choosing.

"The right to work and to cease work.

"The right to bestow or withhold patronage.

"The right to the exercise of normal activities in furtherance of the welfare of labor.

The conference also urged public support of the following:

"Enactment by congress of legislation which shall protect the workers in their organized activities against the concept that there is a property right in the labor of a human being.

"No application of the use of injunctions, except in those cases where they would not apply in the absence of such injunctions.

"Prohibition of immigration for a period of not less than two years.

"The public control of interests affiliated prices, were denounced.

litical affairs of the United States and of our several states.

"Removal by impeachment of the usurped power of courts to declare unconstitutional laws enacted by congress.

"Election of judges.

"Immediate restoration of exemption from or the repeal of all anti-combination and so-called conspiracy laws.

"Restoration of an adequate federal employment service.

"Administration of credit as a public trust in the interest of all the people.

"Repeal by the states of all industrial conspiracy laws and all restrictive and coercive laws, including the Canadian Lemieux law of 1919, and freedom from decisions of holding trade unions and individual members thereof responsible in damages for the unlawful acts of others.

"We urge upon the unorganized workers everywhere the urgent necessity of joining the unions of their trades and callings, their only means of refuge and protection.

"We call upon the workers everywhere to resist the efforts to destroy trade unions, whether by the false pretense of law and order, the initiative and referendum in the po-

through writs of injunction, or otherwise.

"We call upon the trade unions for closer banding together, a greater solidarity and unity of purpose.

"We call for united support in the protection of standards of wages and conditions already gained, and we summon the workers to continued efforts to increase the consuming power, raise the standards and improve the conditions of life and labor.

"We call upon the workers and all our people to give their support, their effort and their combined strength of righteous purpose to the defense and preservation of the spirit and the letter of that declaration of July 4, 1776, and written by Washington, D. C., Feb. 23, 1921, pledge ourselves and to them we appeal to act absolutely and unreservedly."

PRETENSE CAST OFF BY ANTI-UNIONISTS

Washington, March 5.—"Reactionary employers have gone too far," might in a campaign which they are pleased to call a campaign for the "open shop," which they have been waging vigorously since the signing of the armistice," declared the conference of trade union representatives, held in this city February 23.

"Compelled by the pressure of public opinion during the period of operation during the war, when the conservation of productive energy was necessary to the life of the nation, they cast off all pretense immediately upon the passing of the emergency.

"This entire campaign on the part of the combined reactionary employers is in no sense a campaign for the 'open shop,' no matter what definition may be given to that term. The campaign is distinctly and solely one for a shop that shall be closed against union workmen. It is primarily a campaign disguised under the name of an 'open shop' campaign, designed to destroy trade unions and to break down and eliminate the whole principle of collective bargaining. Long years of years been accepted by the highest industrial authorities and by the American people as fundamental upon justice, and established permanently in our industries.

"Not only during the war, but during every year since the labor movement has had a place in our industrial life, it has justified itself and proved the most necessary therefor, by making possible the necessary co-operation between employers and workers, hand in hand, and on the other hand by resisting their encroachments upon domination and developing for them a standard of living and of industrial democracy and of American citizenship. The American labor movement must be here because it is a necessity."

BUSINESS THEORY UPSET.

New York, March 5.—Business theories are upset and generalizations by business men are denied, in a book by Stuart Chase, "Men and Machines," which is a volume issued by the Bureau of Foreign Statistics of Income, Calendar Year 1918."

The volume shows that the success of a company bears no direct relation to the amount of margin between the cost of goods to the seller and the price the seller receives from the public.

In finance, banking and insurance the cost of goods was 27.59 per cent of the total income, while in textile manufacturing the cost was 75.11 per cent, or nearly three times as much as the banking and insurance group.

Yet the percentage of the textile manufacturers who were able to make a profit on a 25 per cent margin was greater than the percentage of bankers who were able to make a profit on a 72 per cent margin.

"The table is a direct denial of the value of business generalizations," says the Annalist correspondent.

FARM LOANS ARE LEGAL.

Washington, March 5.—The farm loan act, designed to aid agricultural development by providing credits at low interest through federal land banks, has been upheld by the United States supreme court.

Opponents of the act held that congress has neither the authority under the constitution to establish banks or to exempt these securities from state taxation. The suit was started by a stockholder of a Kansas City trust company.

Attorneys for the federal land banks declared the plan was copied after farm mortgage banks who see and said to their excessive interest charged.

END ARBITRATION PACT.

Chicago, March 5.—Federal Judge Alschuler has held that the railroad industry that his services in labor disputes are no longer necessary, and that the federal arbitration of wage disputes which was agreed to in the Cummins-Esch railway law is a farce, a gigantic strike. The packers announce that wage disputes will hereafter be settled "under a plan to be devised." Many substantial wage increases were granted by Judge Alschuler.

GREETINGS TO WASHINGTON.

Minneapolis, March 5.—Organized labor in this city extended fraternal greetings and well wishes to the national conference of labor representatives, held in Washington, Feb. 23. The message was signed by officers of the central body and the building trades council.

The conference is inaugurating a trade union organizing campaign which will spread to other progressive attempts in the northwest.

STRIKERS ARE WINNING.

Jersey City, N. J., March 5.—Striking employees in this vicinity are winning their fight for the union shop and standardized conditions. Of the 300 shops in Hudson county more than 175 are working. The strikers are affiliated with the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union.

MOONEY PERSECUTORS ARE BEING ENGULFED

San Francisco, March 5.—Duncan McKenzie, district attorney, and Charles Goff, captain of police, now stand practically alone among the public officials of this city who were concerned in the arrest and conviction of Warren K. Billings and Thomas Mooney," says the San Francisco Call.

"They cling stubbornly as ever to the old tumbling story of the guilt of these men, but the support of the Draper Hands and Richard Smith trial of the second Mooney case, the perjury of the Oxmans and other witnesses is brought into the light and impeachment like John Lawson, who saw the Mooneys on the roof of the Sutter building, bare the methods used in those trials to twist their testimony to fit the preconceived program of the prosecution.

"When John McDonald, the man who identified Mooney and Billings returns to San Francisco to admit that he testified falsely, Captains Matheson and Goff refuse to see him. If he is speaking the truth they will do their best to see that he is indicted for perjury. They do not say that if this is true then all the labored manufacture of evidence against Mooney and Billings has been in vain and that the verdicts against Mooney and Billings are confirmed which they have been insistently deny that the two men already in prison were unjustly convicted. And they have never admitted these uncomfortable conclusions."

LACK OF EFFICIENCY.

Washington, March 5.—Caring for forests offers a wide field for efficiency in the management, according to statements made by Senator McNary of Oregon, chairman of the senate committee on public lands.

"We have enough land unfit for agriculture," he said, "to grow all the timber this country requires, but a large part of it has been made idle through destructive methods of logging and particularly through repeated forest fires."

He said that the practice of the lumber men has been to cut only two tons of hickory, which is becoming a precious wood, only 400 pounds of finished lumber to the timber.

WILL TEST RAIL ACT.

Washington, March 5.—The Cummins-Esch railroad act has been attacked in the United States supreme court by the Wisconsin, but was denied by the state of Wisconsin, but officials of 41 other states were permitted to intervene in the suit.

It is charged that the act takes away from the states powers vested in them in the federal constitution and that the guaranteed fixed return of 6 per cent on railroad investments is confiscatory.

The spectacle of 42 states lining up against the act is in strange contrast to the wild approval when the bill was passed by congress last year, and the delirious praise heaped on it during the last campaign.

WHY UNIONS ARE OPPOSED.

Detroit, Mich., March 5.—Officers of the Association of Commerce and Michigan Electric Railway Employes report that the members of the association have received wage increases last year that approximate $21,000,000. The number of members benefited was 122,355. The increase averages $253 per year per employe, or $5 per week, equal in excess of 9 cents an hour, when figured with a nine-hour day, which, on an average of 300 days a year.

RAILROAD ACT FAILS.

Washington, March 5.—The Cummins-Esch law is a failure, both in theory and practice, declared Glenn G. McAdoo, former director general of railroads. The former official is quoted as saying that railroads are drifting toward government ownership.

WILL DEBATE "OPEN SHOP."

New York, March 5.—"The Open Shop" will be debated in this city March 13 by Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's union, and Walter Gordon Merritt, attorney for anti-trade union associations.

METAL WORKERS OUT.

Aberdeen, Wash., March 5.—A lockout has been declared in the Grays Harbor iron works has forced iron molders and machinists on the street.

WOULD PROTECT RIGHTS.

Washington, March 5.—A bill introduced by Senator Borah, republican, of Idaho, to prevent the arrest, fine, imprison and remove from office any federal official found guilty of unlawfully treading on the rights of free speech, free press and assemblage granted by the constitution.

"The civil rights of the private citizen," said Senator Borah, "have of late often been challenged and their existence denied. Such a condition has been on the increase for the last quarter of a century. There and many times with a disregard of the great guarantees of the federal constitution as well as the rights of the private citizen are concerned. The facts in support of this fact are a part of the record and are overwhelming.

"Federal judges, officers and their agents, have made arrests without warrant, broken into private residences without warrant, practiced brutality toward citizens guilty of no offense

"Citizens in public office and in public places fattens by what it feeds on."

Senator Borah stated that he would press the bill at the coming special session of congress.

BANKS EVADE PUBLICITY.

Washington, March 5.—Bankers are objecting, and in some cases refusing, to comply with the request of Comptroller of the Currency Williams that he be furnished all officers and employes of national banks be included in the bonds given to the treasurer and also printed in their reports in the public press.

The federal reserve board that there is no reason why depositors should not know the names of those to whom their money goes, but the bankers reply that the publication of the figures would result in unfair criticism. Thomas R. Paton, general counsel for the American Bankers' association and other bankers in public office and in public places fattens by what it feeds on."

Senator Borah stated that he would press the bill at the coming special session of congress.

TIMBER WORKERS UNITE.

Everett, Wash., March 5.—Timber workers in this district are rejecting the compromise offered by the loyal legion of loggers and lumbermen. This organization used patriotism as a smoke screen to gain a foothold among timber workers and has decreased wages as a result. The timber workers are now joining the International Union of Timber Workers.

TELLING UNION STORY.

Tacoma, Wash., March 5.—Organized teamsters are telling the story of unionism to the workers used in this calling. When the first Teamsters' union was organized in this city 23 years ago, the work day was 12 hours, with care for horses extra. The wage was $2 per day, agid $1.56. The work day now is eight hours and wages range around $6.

MAY BUILD CAR LINE.

Washington, March 5.—The United States supreme court has upheld lower courts in their refusal of an injunction to the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway to restrain the city of Detroit from constructing a city-owned street car system.

WOULD SUE UNIONS.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 5.—Senator Woodward of Philadelphia has introduced a bill in the state legislature which provides that unions and other unincorporated bodies may be sued.

PROFITEERS ESCAPE: LEVER LAW ILLEGAL

Washington, March 5.—The United States supreme court has put quite section 4 of the Lever food control law, and declared that this section as a basis for its application of the principle of public interest, in the minds, issued by Federal Judge Anderson.

Judge Anderson let it be understood, however, that if the Lever act is repealed or amended so as to cover the profiteers, that profits for them, such as you gathered in during the war, would be considered lawful, and in the present condition of the country that your prices are excessive and unjustifiable."

BOMBARD ALLEN'S COURT.

Topeka, Kan., March 5.—A steady bombardment of Governor Allen's "court-strike" court is maintained by the state federation of labor, which takes every opportunity to expose its savagery against the workers and its attempt to wreck business.

Several weeks ago unorganized flour mill employes imagined that the governor would give them redress when they were unemployed. The court was assembled, the workers were cited to appear and the upshot of the findings was that the public health was endangered because there was flour on hand to supply the people.

Another court called the strike against the Mackie Flour company to force the company to pay $1.50 per day, $9 per week and $36 per month to the sole support of unemployed workers. Then the court was convened to fix the price of the 140-pound sack of flour at $11.50, a price in advance of what is awaiting buyers. But the Allen court delivered one knockout blow after another. An injunction was issued against miners' officials for aiding the strike.

These unionists are asking why is it necessary to resort to injunctions to settle disputes during strikes, and if it can't stop strikes, why does it exist.

DUST IN GRANITE WORKING.

Washington, March 5.—Workers in mineral industries where the air is dusty from the dust of rock are subject to a peculiar pulmonary disease known as miners' phthisis, or stone cutters' consumption, reports the United States bureau of mines.

In granite cutters the disease is specifically designated as granite cutters' consumption. Very fine particles of the harder rocks are especially dangerous when they reach the lungs. It is estimated that particles about one micron (1-25000 part of an inch in diameter) are most injurious, because large particles are readily removed from the cilia and wet surfaces of the respiratory passages before reaching the lungs.

Granite cutting with the high power pneumatic tools in use today raises a profuse dust in the air of shops. Various systems of considerable efficiency have been installed for removing the dust as it forms, but there is no evidence as to just how effective these are has previously been secured. When the dust is inhaled the larger of the dust particles quickly fall to the ground, but the smaller particles remain suspended for a long time.

BLANTON IS REPUDIATED.

Washington, March 5.—Sixteen Texas members of the national house of representatives have signed a letter repudiating Congressman Blanton that he is "sitting on the lid" and is keeping congressmen from raising their salaries and that he needs the assistance of other congressmen to check him in his raid on the treasury.

The signers declare say they make this statement for the benefit of those "who are not familiar with Mr. Blanton and his methods."

This repudiation is but one of many which Blanton has received by members of congress.

WILL STOP INCOMPETENTS.

Troy, N. Y., March 5.—The board of aldermen passed an ordinance requiring motormen and conductors to have had experience as helpers on the local street car system under the instruction of men who have been employed at it for not less for at least six months. The legislation is aimed at preventing men imported by the company when it attempted to reduce wages.

PASS IMMIGRATION BILL.

Washington, March 5.—The house has accepted the senate amendment to the immigration restriction bill which would stop immigration for one year. The senate's plan limited immigration for 15 months from April 1 to 3 per cent of the nationals of each country resident in the United States at the time of the 1910 census.

REFUSE INJUNCTION.

Seattle, March 5.—Superior Court Judge Griffiths has set aside a temporary injunction issued against striking iron molders. The workers were ordered not to picket, but Judge Griffiths held that they had a right to discuss the causes of the difficulty with the men now at work.

STEEL TRUST POLICY BREEDS BOLSHEVISM

Washington, March 5.—The cunning of bolsheviists is harmless in this country when compared with the profiteering tactics of the steel trust, declared Comptroller of the Currency Williams in a letter to Judge Gary of the United States steel corporation, who is criticized for holding steel prices to the level fixed soon after the signing of the armistice.

The federal official calls on the steel corporation to reduce prices, which is preferable without affecting wages or dividends. He says that the official figures show that since 1914 it charged on an average $30 more than was necessary to pay dividends on steel stocks for every ton of its products. Charges were made that during that year it could double all wages paid to its 243,719 employes and officers and have a surplus of nearly $10,000,000.

"All the diabolic cunning and ingenuity of the bolsheviists of Russia," said Mr. Williams, "can do comparatively little harm here. Its power so surprised, and so paralyzed by injudicial, lies in a deliberate refusal on the part of labor to recognize or abide by the terms of injunctions that are issued without any thing of facts which the workers have a lawful and guaranteed right to do, or which seek to compel workers to do those things which they have a lawful and guaranteed right not to do.

"This is the only course through which labor can find relief and this course it purposes to pursue. Labor realizes fully that to disregard of such a course, but in the defense of the American freedom and of American institutions, it is compelled to adopt this course, by the consequences to follow its refusal.

"The workers maintain that the constitution of the United States is a living document, in the guarantees and guarantees as applicable today as when they were written. The workers maintain that in their every day life and work rights which the constitution declares to be inalienable should in practice, as well as in theory, be inalienable.

"Among these rights is the right to liberty—freedom from involuntary servitude except as punishment for crime, freedom of the right of the thirteenth amendment lives, and the workers are determined that it shall not be denied to them.

"Nor shall the guarantee of their freedom be in any manner denied to peal a group slavery in modern industry as reprehensible as was the slavery of the South before the Civil Slavery, compulsory labor, the tying of men to the soil, the making be ore tolerated now than was chattel slavery then. It has no more justification in the name of progress and under our democratic form of government than it had under the government of monarchial, bureaucratic, or under any other form of government.

CRUMBLING AT GARY.

Philadelphia, March 5.—"Exactly in line with the views of a considerable number of thoughtful men," grumbles the Public Ledger's financial editor in commenting on the statement by Comptroller of the Currency Williams that the steel trust's refusal to reduce prices is unjustifiable."

The statement the corporation has added to its assets, which from earnings during its 20 years' existence, is denied by the Ledger writer. "It represents a sum more than twice the entire fortune of John D. Rockefeller."

The writer, however, is cautious in regard to the part of this that he grumbles at Gary. He affects a "fair attitude" by talking of the time when the trust "reduces prices —and, later, wages."

Comptroller of the Currency Williams wasted no time in discussing any wage reductions before this gigantic aggregation of capital. He declared that in 1918 the trust could double wages and dividends of its employes, pay all dividends and carry a clear profit of $18,000,000. The federal official quoted the trust's figures to prove that at that time the net profit was 12 per cent and than was necessary for its products. He declared that these war prices be reduced.

STAR WITNESS IS PETTED.

San Francisco, March 5.—In telling the story of how he was "framed up" John McDonald has unfolded an amazing story how he was petted by the district attorney's office and police patrol boat was placed at his disposal and that he was frequently taken down the bay on jaunts. He says Captain Matheson "directed me to the Oakland harbor police station to take me out on the police boat to see the ships. After that I went on numerous pleasure trips on the bay with Peterson and Captain Matheson."

McDonald says that the police got him a job as a detective to guard a ship and that he was told to come to the police "used to send the launch every day to take me to and from work."

LOSE FAITH IN COURT.

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, March 5.—Striking railway stewards are supported by the Australian Worker in their refusal to submit their case to the federal arbitration court. The strikers are demanding the eight-hour day and they decline to have a question arbitrated that has been accepted in the past by the arbitration court. They claim that the scant justice accorded them in the past by the arbitration court entitles them to less faith in that institution.

FOUNDRY WORKERS MEET.

St. Louis, Mo., March 5.—Different branches of the International Brotherhood of Foundry Employes met in convention in this city and the gathering was marked by a harmonious determination to solidify the ranks. Permanent headquarters were established in this city and Chicago was selected as the next convention city.

JOURNEYMEN TAILORS GAIN.

Minneapolis, March 5.—The Palace Clothing company, operating one of the largest tailor shops in this city, has agreed to resume relations with the Journeymen Tailors' union. The cause—shop and a 5 per cent wage increase features the adjustment.

ALABAMA STRIKE ENDS.

Birmingham, Ala., March 5.—Striking coal miners in this state were forced coal owners to abandon their insulting declaration that there to refer the dispute to Governor Kilby, who will appoint a commission to be unidentified capital terrific odds and won a fight that will benefit the organized movement of Alabama.

Much praise is given certain citizens for their peace efforts but the Labor Advocate says first credit must go to the miners and their officials, and then to Mr. Sid Cowan, who resigned from the state labor department recently because methods used against the strikers.

Mr. Labor Advocate says:

"Mr. Cowan's knowledge of the situation, his dealings with the officers in charge of the state labor improvement agencies, his intimate affection for the forces opposed in dealing with the miners, his refusal to be a party to the dirty tactics used by the authorities, his resignation because of the imposition of such duties, and his determination in a sense of fair play to tell what he knew and the facts of the case, entitles him to be one nine high in the councils of the state and some of the best organizations in the state would be sought to responsibility for certain actions, forced the governor and the operators to act."

RAILROADS HANDED CASH.

Washington, March 5.—The president has signed the bill which authorizes approximately $360,000 000 of the $600,000 000 to railroads. The government guaranteed to meet the deficit under federal control after these properties were returned, last spring. Comptroller of Treasury Warwick refused to pay money on this account until the bill was signed by the president. It was found that the federal official was sustained by the committee on claims. When Congressman Wilson was named to urge favorable report. Representatives of the railroad unions opposed the bill on the ground of trade union principles, held in this city, Feb. 23, declared that the bill "is an unjustified and unjustifiable concession to the railroad owners who have been given carte blanche for new and lawful processes."

UNIONISTS STOP CUT.

Toronto, Ontario, March 5.—As a result of the wages of building craftsmen by starting on the painting of the $6,000,000 Union station here, the move was started on the large job and when the painting schedule was signed the building association declared a general lockout and after adoption of the union shop. The other building trades swung in behind the wide open shop parade and all jobs quit, the employers quit in less than 48 hours.

HATTERS WIN.

Bridgeport, Conn., March 5.—Superior Court Judge Maltbie has rendered a decision in the Danbury hatters' case, decision in a suit started by the D. E. Wood company of Norwalk, which asked for an injunction and damages on the ground that the unions conspired to prevent them from securing hat bodies from union shops, thereby losing orders to the amount of $480,000. The court found that the unionists had violated no law.

URGE SHORTER HOURS..

Raleigh, N. C., March 5.—A bill pending in the state legislature would amend the 55-hour law in factories to 48 hours. When the present law was passed many mill employes worked 60 hours a week or 11 hours a day, except Saturday, when they worked 10 hours.

"There is no question about the legality of these bonds. It has been passed by the courts. There is no question about their value. The fact is not questioned that the total indebtedness of the entire State of North Dakota, including the proposed bond issue of $5,500,000, is less than one-half of 1 per cent of the assessed valuation of the state."

The executive council explained its limitations to the North Dakota land, who were informed that the national and international affiliates have sole control of their funds. The council also stated that it would aid them to the extent of its ability and place it their disposal the names and addresses of trade union executives and recommend that they be heard by the conference.

The conference approved the council's action and declared "that the sympathy of the conference be expressed towards the government and the people of North Dakota, and that we recommend to the trade unions of America the friendly consideration of the bond issue."

Sympathetic To North Dakota People

Washington, March 5.—Sympathy toward the government and the people of North Dakota was expressed by the conference of trade union representatives in this city, February 23. The conference recommended to the trade unions of America the friendly consideration of a bond issue by that state.

Representatives of the government of North Dakota, headed by Governor Frazier and United States Senator Lendl, appeared before the executive council prior to the conference, and asked for aid, in marketing a $6,500,000 issue to finance their industrial program.

It was stated that opponents of these bonds had contested the issue in the courts, but the state was upheld by the United States supreme court. The banks refused to market the bond issue.

The word has gone forth, the plan has been placed," said the North Dakota representatives, "and now we ask the co-operation of labor in this great struggle.

UNIONIST IS URGED.

Washington, March 5.—The recent conference in this city of representatives of national and international trade unions, the following resolution and ordered, copy of same forwarded to President Warren G. Harding, then president-elect:

"In view of the fact that you have been chosen for the appointment as secretary of labor several organizations, and whereas, labor is deeply interested in who the individual will be at the head of the department of labor, we, the representatives of the national and international unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. and the representatives of the railroad brotherhoods, unofficially you to name as a member of the cabinet as the representative of the forces organized labor—one who is recognized as a real spokesman of the working people of our country and who understands the toilers—one who has lived, worked and consoled with them.

"We have no desire to name any special person for this office, but we respectfully request as citizens of our country that the man to be appointed to represent us in your cabinet shall be a representative of organized labor."

NEED MONEY FOR SAFETY.

San Francisco, March 5.—The state industrial accident commission is urging the California legislature to levy a tax on employers for rehabilitation and safety departments, the amount to be 2 per cent on the premium paid for each workmen's compensation policy. The commission states that its safety work has been financially hampered from the beginning. Each working day two telegrams reach the office announcing two deaths of workmen. Each working day in California there are in excess of 200 industrial injuries. A large number of safety orders are issued but their enforcement should not be left to the state industrial accident commission, which states that calls from employers and employed for safety devices and methods cannot be because of lack of funds to provide competent engineers and other assistances.

URGE PORTO RICAN PROBE.

Washington, March 5.—The recent conference of forty labor representatives in this city pledged their support in the workers of Porto Rico in their request that congress appoint a commission with authority to investigate industrial and governmental affairs of that island. The request also asked for workmen's compensation policy. The commission states that its safety work has been financially hampered from the beginning. Each working day two telegrams reach the office announcing two deaths of workmen. Each working day in California there are in excess of 200 industrial injuries. A large number of safety orders are issued but their enforcement should not be left to the state industrial accident commission, which states that calls from employers and employed for safety devices and methods cannot be because of lack of funds to provide competent engineers and other assistances.

RAISE RATES; CUT WAGES.

San Francisco, March 5.—Electrical workers have been on strike several weeks because the Pacific Western Power company wants to cut wages $1 a day.

Nearly a year ago the company secured permission from the state railroad commission to raise rates in order to meet increased operating expenses, the chief item of which was wages. The company continues its extra charge.

MILLIONS FOR AIR SERVICE.

Washington, March 5.—Congress has voted $20,656,000 for army air service. The army asked $152,000,000. The house voted $19,280,000 and the senate $25,994,000, when the compromise was reached.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET.

Galveston, Texas, March 5.—The annual convention of the state federation of labor will be held in this city beginning Monday, May 16.